Daily Report
Central Eurasia

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Interregional Affairs

Black Sea Naval Officers Favor United Fleet

OW2806150393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1415 GMT 28 Jun 93—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The fate of the Black Sea Navy will largely depend on the decisions to be adopted on Tuesday [29 June] by delegates to a general naval meeting under way in Sevastopol. Spokesmen for the Naval Command told Interfax on Monday that the results of the forum, which will gather one delegate from each ship or unit at 10 a.m., cannot be ignored.

They said that naval officers are strongly in favor of a united fleet. If the meeting decided to raise St. Andrew flags over all Black Sea ships, the situation might get out of control and the Naval Command might "distance itself from the popular desire to go to the extreme" on the one hand, and "to treat the reasons for such behavior with understanding" on the other.

Officers Convene Conference on Black Sea Fleet

OW2906104093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 29 Jun 93—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "A Firm No to division of the Black Sea Fleet" is the theme of the draft resolution to be discussed by the meeting of navy officers' delegates which started in Sevastopol Tuesday [29 June]. Every fleet ship and land unit is represented at the conference.

The draft calls for "putting an end to all ambiguities, caused by the Yalta accords as to the status and rights of the fleet servicemen and non-military personnel. The Black Sea Fleet should be regarded as being under the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation for the entire duration of the transition period until final decisions are made." The naval officers also emphasize that "joint use of the fleet can and must be dictated by common geopolitical interests of Ukraine, the Russian Federation and other Commonwealth member nations...In order to provide the necessary economic conditions for the fleet to be deployed in Ukraine and the Republic of Crimea, appropriate treaties should be concluded shortly which would recognize the legislation on power sharing between Ukraine and the Republic of Crimea."

"Maintaining a united fleet may prove to be the first step towards a true union of Russia and Ukraine and this will be consistent with the will of the peoples, not the expedients of today's political games," the draft says.

Military experts believe that the decision passed by the meeting will largely dictate the fate of the Black Sea Fleet.

Russia International Affairs

Parliament Denounces U.S. Missile Strike on Iraq

OW3006110493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1030 GMT 30 Jun 93—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The House of Nationalities of the Russian Supreme Soviet passed by 71 to three votes with two abstentions a resolution Wednesday [30 June] that had been drafted by the opposition Russian Unit bloc.

The day before the resolution had been passed by the House of the Republic.

The statement of the Russian parliament protests "the act of international violence undertaken by the U.S. against Iraq. The Supreme Soviet emphasizes the need to resolve even the most difficult problems by civilized political methods."

'Unfriendly' U.S. Acts Viewed

OW2806130493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1138 GMT 28 Jun 93—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A group of Russian Supreme Soviet members denounced unfriendly U.S. actions against Russia. A statement Russian Unity deputies made public Monday [28 June] says that alarming trends are obvious in the official U.S. position vis-a-vis Russia. Threats are made to impose sanctions against it for selling weapons to developing countries, something that numerous countries, notably the U.S.A. are also doing. The discrimination against the Russian- speaking population in the Baltic countries is encouraged and a virtual ultimatum was sent to Russia demanding the cancelation of rocket booster sales.

Whoever hopes, the statement says, to profit on the political situation at the expense of Russia, will be disappointed. The deputies emphasize that they will use their rights to protect the interests and security of Russia. If unfriendly U.S. actions continue, the people's deputies will take retaliatory steps, in particular prevent early ratification of the arms reduction treaties signed with the U.S.

Rutskoy Condemns 'Attack'

OW2806190793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1854 GMT 28 Jun 93—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy has described the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad on the night of June 26 as a unilateral police action, shattering the international code of conduct and running counter to the UN Charter.

"Whatever the excuse for that military action against a sovereign state, there can be no justification either from the moral or from political point of view," Vice-President Rutskoy says in his statement issued in Moscow on